

August 9, 2011

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

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FCC Mail Room

Re: Docket # 11-65

Members of the Commission:

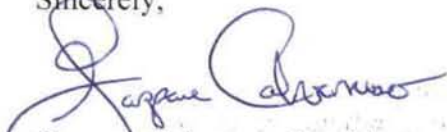
We are currently experiencing a time of incredible change. On one hand, health care costs continue to climb. On the other, advances in research hold the promise of better health outcomes, increased efficiency, and greater accessibility for more people.

As the president of a regional hospital that serves patients from both rural and suburban areas, I know that one of the best ways we can accomplish our healing mission is through greater access to technology and technological services that can bring these advances to people who otherwise might not be able to make use of them. Telemedicine holds great promise. It can make remote monitoring and virtual checkups a reality. It can bring procedures practiced in only a few places in the country to facilities in every part of the country. This is particularly important to our rural patients, who could – with access to high-speed broadband – be able to receive care from a doctor without having to travel miles from their home. But this vision will only become a reality if the infrastructure is in place to support it.

I write today to urge you to approve the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile USA, because it will result in the expansion of high-speed mobile broadband access to over 97 percent of the country. The near universal access to 4G LTE technology will help transform health care. While people today may use mobile devices to stream a movie or send email, with 4G LTE technology we can make use of advanced telemedicine applications and even help streamline other cost-consuming activities through the use of electronic record keeping and billing.

Your support for the merger is an important step toward improving the future of health care delivery for our hospital and for health care facilities across the country – particularly those serving rural populations. I thank you for your consideration and hope you will approve the merger.

Sincerely,


Gaspare Calvaruso, President
SSM St. Joseph Health Centercc: Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon ClyburnNo. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

SSM HEALTH CARE – ST. LOUIS INCLUDES

Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center • DePaul Health Center • St. Clare Health Center • St. Joseph Health Center
St. Joseph Health Center – Wentzville • St. Joseph Hospital West • St. Mary's Health Center

Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.